



**DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY**  
**NAVAL FACILITIES ENGINEERING SYSTEMS COMMAND**  
**BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE**  
**PROGRAM MANAGEMENT OFFICE WEST**  
**33000 NIXIE WAY, BLDG 50 Suite 207**  
**SAN DIEGO, CA 92147**

5000-110  
Ser BPMOW/313  
October 13, 2021

Mr. Jeff Ruch  
Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility  
962 Wayne Avenue, Suite 610  
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Mr. Ruch:

This correspondence is in regard to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated December 7, 2018 in which you seek six separately enumerated categories of records related to the Hunters Point Naval Shipyard ("HPNS") located in San Francisco, California.

Your request was received in this office on May 3, 2021 and assigned file number DON-NAVY-2019-001864. Please cite this number in any future communications with our office regarding this request. Your requests seeks the following:

- a) From January 1, 2005 to the present, all documents that:
  1. Identify the source(s) of fill or other soil that has been used or may be used in the future for soil covers or caps at Hunters Point Shipyard (i.e., soil covers or caps used as a potential remedy for remediation of contamination);
  2. Any measurements made to determine that radionuclide and/or toxic chemical concentrations are acceptable for such use described above;
  3. Specify where soil used for soil covers or caps at Hunters Point can come from (e.g., can "clean" soil from parts of HPS be used) and what standards and tests are used to determine it is "clean";
  4. Reference any occurrence or proposal whereby soil from within HPS that is declared clean is to be or can be used as "backfill", "fill" or "cover"; and
  5. Reference any activities whereby soil was taken from Parcel A or other areas on HPS deemed to be "non-impacted" to be repurposed in any fashion.
- b) All documents from January 1, 2003 to December 31, 2008 that reference any role that Tetra Tech EC played in the preparation of the Final Basewide Radiological Removal Action, Action Memorandum - Revision 2006, Hunters Point Shipyard, San Francisco, CA, April 21, 2006.

A letter dated May 26, 2021 provided a final determination on your FOIA request. A search for responsive records has been completed and approximately 3,455 potentially responsive records have been located. This letter provides the third of multiple phases of release. Additional records will be released to you in phases as documents are determined to be

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responsive to your request. The nature of this particular FOIA request requires a multi-step search and review process for a reasonable search of records. For requests with broad scopes, like this one, we first search document repositories using keywords. The results of this search yields “potentially responsive documents.” Some or many of these initial results are found to be not responsive during the subsequent “review” step. Accordingly, broad requests like this can yield a large difference between “potentially responsive records” and “responsive records” which can also lead to longer release timeframes.

Today’s interim release addresses 181 potentially responsive records. Of the potentially responsive records addressed in this interim release,

- 55 records are were duplicates;
- 21 records were deemed not responsive to the request;
- The 105 remaining records are released to you in full.

Your FOIA request also included a request that all fees be waived. We have evaluated the fee waiver request and have determined that this request is eligible for a waiver.

Please direct any questions concerning this matter to Ms. Meredith Richards, who may be contacted at [meredith.l.richards2.civ@us.navy.mil](mailto:meredith.l.richards2.civ@us.navy.mil) or (619) 524-1637. You may also contact the DON FOIA Public Liaison, Christopher Julka, at [christopher.a.julka.civ@us.navy.mil](mailto:christopher.a.julka.civ@us.navy.mil), (703) 697-0031. In addition, the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) provides a voluntary mediation process for resolving disputes between persons making FOIA requests and the Department of the Navy (DON). For more information, go to <https://www.archives.gov/contact>.

Sincerely,

KIMBERLY A. OSTROWSKI  
Director